GCE Music Technology 2017:
Scheme of Work – Component 2 – 2-year course

Contents

Year One **1**
Year Two 3

Year One

Weeks 1–2	**Introduction to technology-based composition task** • As part of the introduction to the technology-based composition, students will be provided with an overview of the component • Students are made aware of the requirements to fulfil the specification: o One technology-based composition chosen from three briefs set by Pearson, released on their website on 1st September in the calendar year preceding the year in which the qualification is to be awarded o Synthesis and sampling/audio manipulation and creative effects use must be included o Total time must be 3 minutes o Logbook and authentication form must be supplied
Weeks 3–7	**Core DAW skills, sampling and automation** • DAW core functions for audio • Sample manipulation using soft sampler and audio editor, e.g. trimming samples, pitch mapping and using loop points • Automating volume and pan • **Practical project** – sample manipulation/remix short task
Weeks 8–14	**MIDI and synthesis essentials** • Core DAW functions for MIDI, e.g. input, editing • Workshop and practical tasks on subtractive synthesis • Short composing task(s) focused on sound creation and manipulation • Research/prepare (and start) practice technology-based composition task based on AS brief prescribed by Pearson for internal assessment

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Weeks 15–20	**Exploring mark scheme criteria** • Introduction to the mark scheme – assessing previous students' work against it (e.g. adapted from legacy A2 work) • Starter activities to target each mark scheme aspect • Start practice technology-based composition task in independent study to AS brief set by Pearson
Weeks 21–26	**Practice brief sessions with creative workshops** • Practice brief sessions with skills-based workshops at the start of each, focusing on areas of the mark scheme criteria not yet covered • Interim deadline – feedback on brief-based practice piece
Weeks 27–33	**Refining practice technology-based composition** • Peer-review sessions to aid refining of practice technology-based composition • Students submit practice piece for internal marking and feedback
Weeks 34–39	**Prescribed brief preparation** • Research and preparatory work towards an A level brief set by Pearson • Students to complete short, initial sketches based on each of the set briefs

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Year Two

Weeks 1–2	**Exploring the mark scheme** • Exploring the mark scheme – assessing previous students' work against it (e.g. from suitable legacy A2 work)
Weeks 3–7	**Advanced MIDI and sampling and preparing/starting the NEA set brief** • DAW advanced functions for MIDI • Creative sampling – tuning, reversing, stuttering, using key zones, velocity layering, filtering • Research/prepare and start technology-based composition
Weeks 8–14	**Advanced synthesis techniques and starting NEA brief** • Advanced workshop and practical tasks on sound synthesis, e.g. combining waveforms, using and mapping filters and envelopes to shape sounds • Using arpeggiators • Starter activities focusing on each aspect of the mark scheme Start technology-based composition NEA in independent study to brief set by Pearson
Weeks 15–20	**Automating parameters and continuing NEA brief** • Automating parameters for creative effects and Component 4 exam, e.g. delay time, feedback • Using distortion and lo-fi effects for creative purposes • Continue technology-based composition NEA in independent study to brief set by Pearson
Weeks 21–26	**Supervised NEA sessions with skills based starter activities** • Supervised NEA sessions with skills-based workshops at the start of each • Interim deadline – feedback on brief-based piece
Weeks 27–33	**Refining and finish NEA** • Refine NEA with peer-review sessions • Completing logbooks • Submit final NEA piece

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